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CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIALCOUNTRY Hungary REPORTTOPIC 103d How Arty Regt. [] and 45th How Arty Regt. [] in Cegléd 25X1

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EVALUATION [] PLACE OBTAINED [] 25X1

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REMARKS []

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Prior to December 1953, the 103d How Arty Regt. [] and the 45th How Arty Regt. [] were located in the new Artillery Barracks on the southwest side of Toerteli Street in Cegléd (Q 48/O 08). The 103d How Arty Regt was activated in a summer camp near Pusztavám (P 48/Y 82) in September 1951, was stationed at Taborfalva (Q 48/N 78) (formerly Cserkenytabor) from November 1951 to March 1952, and finally moved to Cegléd in March 1952. At the time of activation, the officer corps of the 103d How Arty Regt consisted mainly of officers reassigned from the independent artillery battalion in Miskolc (R 49/J 87), which had been disbanded in the fall of 1951, and some officers who were promoted to the rank of lieutenant in 1951. The NCO situation was similar. In November 1951, the 45th How Arty Regt moved from Papa (P 48/Y 30) to Cegléd. On 31 December 1953, the 103d and the 45th How Arty Regt were subordinate to the 30th Arty Div.

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2. In December 1953, the 103d and the 45th How Arty Regt were organized into the regimental headquarters, the regimental headquarters battery, the 1st Bn, the 2d Bn, and the regimental NCO school. The 103d How Arty Regt totalled about 95 officers and about 540 NCOs and EM.
3. Each regimental headquarters included a regimental commander, a deputy regimental commander, a deputy regimental commander for political affairs, a chief of staff, an assistant chief of staff, an operations officer, an assistant operations officer, a reconnaissance officer, a survey officer, an officer personnel officer, an NCO-and-EM's personnel officer, a mobilization officer, a Party secretary, an agitator, a DISZ who was a secretary, a club director, two counterintelligence officers (AVH officers), an artillery ordnance chief, an armory chief, a signal chief, an assistant signal chief, a chemical defense chief, a motor-transport chief, a motor-vehicle technician, a motor-transport platoon leader, a chief of the classified-material office, a supply chief, a chief of the

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supply office, a finance chief, a cashier, a regimental surgeon, an assistant surgeon, a ration supply chief, a clothing supply chief, a real-estate administration officer (captain), and personnel combined into the service platoon such as a regimental clerk, a draftsman, a journal-keeper for classified material, a filing clerk, an artillery-ordnance NCO, an ammunition-depot administrator, two armorer-artificers, an optician, a signal-depot administrator, a radio-operations NCO, an administrator for the chemical defense depot, a chemical maintenance NCO, a chief of the motor-vehicle repair shop, three automobile mechanics, a carpenter, a fuel-depot administrator, an administrator for the motor-vehicle spare parts depot, an accountant and pay officer, an administrator for the ration supply depot, an assistant for the ration supply depot, an administrator for the clothing depot, an assistant for the clothing depot, a chief of the craftsmen's shop, two tailors, two shoemakers, a billeting-equipment administrator, a mess chief, a cook who was an NCO, a cook, four assistant cooks, an administrator for the medical equipment depot, six medical-corps soldiers, and 20 drivers.

4. The regimental headquarters battery included the battery headquarters, a reconnaissance platoon, a survey platoon, and a signal platoon.
5. The battery headquarters included a battery commander, a deputy battery commander, a deputy commander for political affairs, a first sergeant, and a driver.
- 5a. The reconnaissance platoon included a platoon leader and 3 reconnaissance squads, each of which had a squad leader and 4 or 5 soldiers.
- 5 b. The survey platoon included a platoon leader and 2 survey squads, each of which had a squad leader and 4 or 5 soldiers.
6. The signal platoon included a platoon leader, 2 radio squads, each of which had a squad leader and 5 or 6 soldiers, and 3 telephone squads each of which had a squad leader and 5 soldiers.
7. Each battalion was organized into the battalion headquarters and three batteries.
8. Each battalion headquarters included a command group, a reconnaissance platoon, and a signal platoon.
9. Each command group was staffed by a battalion commander, a deputy battalion commander, a deputy battalion commander for political affairs, a reconnaissance officer, a signal officer, an ordnance officer, a chemical defense NCO, and a medical-corps NCO.
10. Each reconnaissance platoon included a platoon leader, a deputy platoon leader, an evaluation squad which had a squad leader and 3 soldiers, and 2 reconnaissance squads each of which had a squad leader and 5 or 6 soldiers.
11. Each signal platoon included a platoon leader, a deputy platoon leader, a radio squad which had a squad leader and 5 or 6 soldiers, and 2 telephone squads each of which had a squad leader and 6 or 7 soldiers.
12. Each battery was organized into a command group, a battery headquarters, and 2 howitzer platoons.
13. Each command group included a battery commander, a deputy battery commander, a deputy battery commander for political affairs, a battery officer, a first sergeant, a towing-squad leader, and a driver.
14. Each battery headquarters included a leader of the battery headquarters personnel, a reconnaissance squad which had a squad leader and 4 soldiers, a telephone squad which had a squad leader and 6 soldiers, and a radio squad which had a squad leader and 2 soldiers.

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15. Each howitzer platoon had 2 howitzers and included a platoon leader, 3 drivers (2 for prime movers and 1 for the ammunition vehicle), and 2 sections each of which had a section leader and 8 gunners.
16. Each regimental NCO school, whose cadre was covered by a separate table of organization, was organized into a school headquarters, a reconnaissance platoon, a signal platoon, and a howitzer platoon.
17. Each school headquarters included a school commander, a deputy school commander for political affairs, a first sergeant, and a clerk.
18. Each reconnaissance platoon included a platoon leader and 3 instruction NCOs for artillery reconnaissance.
19. Each signal platoon included a platoon leader, an instruction NCO for radio operations, and an instruction NCO for telephone operations.
20. Each howitzer platoon included a platoon leader and 3 instruction NCOs.
21. All members of the 103d and the 45th How Arty Regt wore red service color. Most of them wore artillery insignia which were three-shell devices topped by crossed barrels. Members of technical services wore the arm insignia of their respective technical service.
22.
23. Each battery of the 103d How Arty Regt was equipped with four Soviet model 1938 152-mm field howitzers which were made during the war, and four 3.5-ton SIS trucks which were used as prime movers. It was intended to equip the regiment with Soviet-made "Caotrogon" caterpillar tractors which were to be used as prime movers for the howitzers and as ammunition carriers. The regiment had only three tractors of this model, however. When the unit was reorganized from three into two battalions in October 1953 it was also mentioned that it was to be re-equipped and receive 203-mm howitzers, but this measure was not executed prior to 31 December 1953. The regiment also had four model SIS-3 76-mm field guns which were used for AT training. The regimental NCO school had a model 1938 152-mm howitzer, a model 1943 152-mm howitzer, a 122-mm howitzer, and a model SIS-3 76-mm field gun.
24. Each battery of the 45th How Arty Regt had four Soviet-made model 1943 152-mm field howitzers.
25. Small arms of the regiments included Soviet-made and Hungarian-made model 48 7.6-mm rifles which were mixed up and issued to all enlisted men, model 48 7.6-mm submachine guns with drum magazines of unknown origin which were issued to all NCOs, Soviet-made and Hungarian-made model 48 7.6-mm pistols which were issued to all officers, and two model 48 7.6-mm light machine guns per battery.

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26. Optical equipment included hexagonal six-power binoculars which were manufactured by the Hungarian optical works (Hungarian: Optikai Muevek (MM)), Soviet-made battery commander's ten-power telescopes which could be made twenty-power by attaching a supplementary lens which were used by the reconnaissance platoons of the regimental headquarters batteries and the battalion headquarters, Soviet-made aiming circles which were used by the reconnaissance platoons of the regimental headquarters batteries, the battalion headquarters, the battery headquarters, and the howitzer platoons, and Bezard compasses manufactured by the Hungarian MM works of which at least 15 were available at each battery. All the abovementioned items of optical equipment had a 6,000 mark graduation. Each of the survey platoons of the regimental headquarters batteries had two commercial graduated theodolites which were manufactured by the Hungarian MM works.
27. Signal equipment included Hungarian model R-20 radio sets which were used by the signal platoons of the regimental headquarters batteries and the battalion and battery headquarters, Soviet-made switchboards with 10 connections which were used by the signal platoons of the regimental headquarters batteries, and Soviet-made and German-made switchboards with 5 connections which were used by the signal platoons of the battalion headquarters.
28. The motor equipment of the 103d How Arty Regt consisted of jeeps, weapon carriers which also included Hungarian-imitated models of SIS, Csepel and GMC 3.5-ton trucks, and a Csepel 350-ccm motorcycle. The total of motor vehicles varied from 50 to 100 vehicles.
29. From 1 May to 10 October 1953, almost at the same time as in 1952, the 103d and the 45th How Arty Regts were at the Hajmáker (P 48/D 79) artillery range and the summer camp in the southeastern section of the Csokas forest about 5 kilometers west of Nagykoeros (Q 48/O 06). Other units of the 30th Arty Div were also there. In 1953, the camp was extended and equipped with permanent buildings.
30. From 1 February 1952 to 30 September 1953, the following training courses for reserve officers and reserve NCOs were held at the 103d How Arty Regt:
 Reserve NCO training course for artillery reconnaissance NCOs from 1 February to 31 March 1952: The trainees were 24 members of the 1920 to 1924 classes who had served in the former Hungarian Army and came from all areas of the country. They were quartered in private houses in Oerkeny (Q 48/N 78) until mid-March 1952 and, subsequently, in the new Artillery Barracks on the southwest side of Toerteli Street in Cegled. They were trained and provided with supplies by the regimental school of the 103d How Arty Regt. After the completion of the training course, each trainee was promoted to the next higher rank.

 Reserve NCO training course for artillery reconnaissance NCOs from 1 April to 31 May 1952: The trainees were about 60 soldiers about 50 percent of whom were members of the 1920 to 1924 classes and had still served in the former Hungarian Army; the rest belonged to the 1924 to 1928 classes and had received no military training. This course began in the new Artillery Barracks in Cegled, from which it moved to the summer camp in the southeastern sector of the Csokas forest about 5 kilometers west of Nagykoeros, on 1 May 1952. On the completion of this course, the members of the 1920 to 1924 classes were promoted to the rank of sergeant of the reserve, while the members of the 1924 to 1928 classes were promoted to the rank of staff lance corporal.

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Reserve NCO training courses for artillery reconnaissance NCOs from 1 June to 31 July 1952 and 1 August to 30 September 1952: The number and composition of the trainees participating in each of these courses was similar to the situation in the reserve NCO training course for artillery reconnaissance NCOs which was held from 1 April to 31 May 1952.

Reserve officer training course from 1 August to 30 September 1953: The trainees were about 250 reserve officers of the new army who belonged to various classes, came from all areas of the country, and received platoon leaders' pay under group 20 during the course. On the conclusion of the course, there were no promotions.

Reserve NCO training course from 1 August to 30 September 1953: The trainees were about 300 soldiers, mainly veterans of the 1924 through 1928 classes, who were promoted to the rank of sergeant, of the reserve on the completion of the course.

The two courses were held by the 2d Bn of the 103d How Arty Regt whose enlisted men were reassigned as enlisted replacements to the 1st and the 3d Bn in late July 1953 and whose officers and NCOs were used as instruction personnel for these two training courses. In connection with the army personnel cut, the 2d Bn was not reactivated after the termination of the courses.

31. From 1 August 1953 to 30 September 1953, a reserve officer training course which involved about 500 reserve officers of the new army was held at the 45th How Arty Regt. The instruction personnel of this course also consisted of the officers and NCOs of that battalion of the regiment which disbanded on the occasion of the army personnel cut in the fall of 1953.
32. About 80 percent of the soldiers inducted in the fall of 1953 were members of the 1933 class, and about 20 percent were deferred members of the 1931 and 1932 classes. They came from all areas of the country. In the fall of 1952, no inductees were assigned to the 103d How Arty Regt.
33. Since the term of active service for artillerymen was fixed at two years, all soldiers inducted in the fall of 1951, even draftees promoted to the rank of sergeant, who had hitherto to serve a third year, were discharged in the fall of 1953.
34. In the fall of 1952, an unknown number of officers, NCOs and EM of the 103d How Arty Regt were reassigned to an artillery regiment which was activated in Siofok (Y 5/D 86).
35. In February 1953, the political officer was redesignated deputy regimental commander for political affairs with his previous coordination with the regimental commander being changed into subordination to the regimental commander. His political officer's insignia, which were hitherto worn on his left sleeve was removed. Source believed that this change was made due to the political reliability attained by the commanders in the meantime.
36. In October 1953, the positions at the battalion headquarters of Party secretaries and DISZs who were secretaries were abolished.
37. In October 1953, new official designations which allegedly were literal translations of corresponding Soviet designations were introduced. The headquarters personnel commander was redesignated chief of staff, the staff officers for artillery ordnance and chemical defense were redesignated artillery ordnance and chemical defense chiefs, and the communications zone commander was redesignated supply chief.

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Comment. Another report [redacted] on the 30th Break-through Arty Div to which the 45th and 103d How Arty Regts are subordinate has been recently submitted. [redacted] The 45th and the 103d How Arty Regt moved from the area west of the Danube River to Taborfalva and Cegled at about the same time that the superior division headquarters moved from Ercsi to Cegled.

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Comment. The reorganization from three into two battalions in the fall of 1953 which is mentioned in paragraph 23 is possibly connected with the alleged readjustment of the terms of active service under a special ordinance of the ministry previously reported [redacted] This ordinance has allegedly fixed the term of active service for artillery units at two years and has forbidden the retention for a third year of efficient soldiers subject to the draft who have already been promoted to the rank of sergeant during their term of active service. [redacted] The organization of the break-through artillery division into regiments of two (previously three) battalions disagrees with the organization of Soviet break-through artillery divisions which are organized into brigades of four battalions. It is believed, therefore, that assimilation of the Soviet pattern by analogous reorganization and enforcement is either scheduled to be effected at a later date and has hitherto not taken place for shortage of personnel or ordnance and equipment, or is scheduled to be effected only in the event of mobilization. The equipment of the 103d How Arty Regt which includes four 76-mm field guns in addition to howitzers is apparently based on the Soviet pattern according to which component units of the light and medium howitzer artillery brigades of break-through artillery divisions are also equipped with some 76-mm field guns.

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Comment. The induction of the 1933 class in the fall of 1953 is known and is again confirmed by the present report. The 1932 class has been inducted in the fall of 1952.

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Comment. Siofok is known as the station of an artillery unit.

Comment. The position of the regimental political officer was redesignated deputy regimental commander for political affairs according to the Soviet pattern.

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